

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3 and 6-8 have been rejected. Claims 4, 5 and 9-12 have been objected to by the Examiner. Claims 1 and 6 are herein amended. Claims 13-18 are herein canceled. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-3 and 6-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,150,386 (Stern).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a pulse generator comprising “a plurality of unit cells, wherein an n^{th} unit cell ... generates a pulse in response to a divided-by-N clock signal ... wherein the pulse is a gated version of the divided-by-N clock signal.” Claim 6 has been similarly amended.

In contrast to the present invention recited in independent claims 1 and 6, Stern does not disclose a pulse being a gated version of a divided-by-N clock signal. Instead, Stern discloses a clock multiplier/jitter attenuator circuit that generates signals C1-C4 for controlling the loading of capacitors in an oscillator. The signals C1-C4 are the QB outputs of D latches 126-132. In other words, they are latched signals representing the data stored in the D latches 126-132, not gated versions of a divided-by-N clock signal. As such, Applicants believe that the invention as recited in claims 1 and 6 is patentable

over Stern because Stern does not teach, disclose or suggest at least a pulse generator as claimed therein.

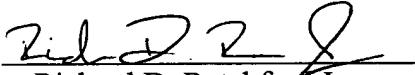
Dependent Claims

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as why the independent claims from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed, *supra*, the dependent claims are also allowable. Applicants however, reserve the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims as herein presented are allowable over the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, and that the respective rejections be withdrawn. Applicants further submit that the application is hereby placed in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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